S.N. 10/643,180; Filed 08/19/2003 MOVABLE GRATING CONTROL Examiner: BOLES, DEREK Group Art Unit: 3749

June 29, 2004

REMARKS

The Examiner's objections to the drawings are duly noted. The Figures 2 - 6 have been accordingly proposed to be amended in red to numerically designate the helical tension spring 26. This is in agreement with Figure 1 and paragraph 23 of the specification. No new matter is involved. If the Examiner approves, formal drawings amended in black and corresponding to those amended in red are enclosed.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 - 16 on Pugh et al, 4,964,566.

Applicant has amended claim 8 to point out that there is a <u>direct</u> drive portion of moving the second (movable) grating toward CLOSED position.

Applicant has amended claim 14 to clarify that the drive means <u>yieldably</u> drives said second grating toward CLOSED position. This is a safety feature of Applicant's drive.

The claims therefore cover a development where the drive of the second grating toward CLOSED position is yieldable in case there is blockage by a finger or other object while the drive toward OPEN position first takes up any slack and then directly drives the second grating toward OPEN position.

The cited patent '566 to Pugh is extremely hard to follow. I have found Figures 2 and 3 of Pugh helpful. Figure 2 shows the coil spring 82 connected at the left to the ventilator (a stationary member) and spring 82 connected on the right to the plunger 86. Plunger 86 is driven by the solenoid coil and connects with push pin 84 to directly drive the second plate 92 between open and closed positions. (See Col. 3, lines 36 - 44). The spring 82 is thus extended and compressed by movement of the plunger but is not involved in the connection of the plunger to the plate 92.

Thus the plate 92 cannot be yieldably driven by the plunger and Applicant's claims are drawn to include such yieldable drive and are believed to be allowable.

Respectfully submitted,

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